

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## TELETYPED INFORMATION REPORT

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TO: ~~SECRET~~ ARMY, NAVY, AIR, JCS, SECDEF,

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DATE DISTR.

10 DECEMBER 1957

PRECEDENCE

☒ ROUTINE

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COUNTRY

USSR (GEORGIAN SSR)

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SUBJECT

OBSERVATION OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT AT AIRFRAME PLANT 31 AT TBILISI

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CHANGE TO

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PER REGRADING

BULLETIN NO. 71-2

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1. IN LATE JULY 1957 THERE WERE NO AIRCRAFT EXCEPT 13 MIG-17S (FRESCO) ON THE AIRFIELD ADJOINING AIRCRAFT PLANT 31 AT TBILISI. AT THAT TIME, THREE OF THE AIRCRAFT WERE IN SHEDS, EIGHT WERE PARKED ON THE TAXIWAY, AND TWO WERE MOVING ALONG THE TAXIWAY. THE RUNWAY WAS MADE UP OF RECTANGULAR CONCRETE BLOCKS AND IS ORIENTED NORTHWEST-SOUTHEAST. ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE AIRFIELD IS ONE HARDSTAND, WHICH IS CONNECTED WITH THE TAXIWAY. THE TAXIWAY IS CONNECTED TO THE RUNWAY BY FOUR CONCRETE STRIPS, ONE AT EACH END OF THE RUNWAY, ONE ACROSS THE CENTER OF THE FIELD, AND ONE

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HALFWAY FROM THE CENTER TO THE WEST END OF THE AIRFIELD.

2. IN LATE OCTOBER 1957 THERE WERE NO FIGHTER AIRCRAFT ON THIS AIRFIELD, BUT THERE WERE 28 LI-2 (CAB) AIRCRAFT DISTRIBUTED ABOUT THE FIELD. NINE OF THESE AIRCRAFT WERE LINED UP IN ROWS OF THREE EACH IN THE GRASS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE AIRFIELD, ONE WAS IN THE GRASS AT THE EXTREME NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE AIRFIELD, AND EIGHTEEN WERE LINED UP IN PAIRS IN THE INFELD BETWEEN THE RUNWAY AND TAXIWAY, EXCEPT THAT THE FIRST TWO ROWS CONTAINED ONLY ONE AIRCRAFT EACH INSTEAD OF TWO. ALL THESE AIRCRAFT WERE IN THE EASTERN HALF OF THE AIRFIELD, AND THEIR NOSES WERE TURNED TOWARD THE WEST, EXCEPT FOR THE ONE IN THE EXTREME NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE FIELD.

3. AROUND THE HARDSTAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE FIELD WERE A NUMBER OF TRUCKS UNLOADING LARGE UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS. A NUMBER OF THESE OBJECTS WERE PILED ON THE GROUND WEST OF THE HARDSTAND. A ROAD LED FROM THE HARDSTAND ACROSS THE INFELD AND THE RUNWAY, IN FRONT OF THE FRONT ROW OF THREE AIRCRAFT ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE AIRFIELD, AND AROUND THE BACK OF THIS ROW BACK TO THE HARDSTAND. A TRUCK WAS OBSERVED ON THIS ROAD BEHIND THE ROW, APPARENTLY CARRYING A LARGE CRATE AND HEADED BACK TOWARD THE HARDSTAND. NO SUCH ROAD WAS OBSERVED ON THE AIRFIELD IN LATE JULY 1957. TWO OR THREE TRUCKS WERE OBSERVED GOING WEST ON THE TAXIWAY TOWARD THE AIRFRAME PLANT.

4. IN THE ANGLE FORMED BY THE TAXIWAY AND THE HARDSTAND CONNECTION WITH THE TAXIWAY WAS A TENT CAMP CONSISTING OF 31 TENTS APPROXIMATELY 20 X 30 FEET, ARRAYED ALONG TWO SIDES OF A MUCH LARGER TENT OR PREFABRICATED BUILDING; BEHIND THE LARGER TENT WERE THREE TENTS WHICH WERE SOMEWHAT LARGER THAN THE 31 TENTS, AND THREE MORE OF

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THESE SOMEWHAT LARGER TENTS WERE LOCATED JUST SOUTH OF THE MAIN TENT CAMP. NONE OF THESE TENTS OR UNLOADING ACTIVITIES **WAS** OBSERVED ON THE FIELD IN LATE JULY.

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